

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The motivation for this unusual collecting field is first the challenge of finding items and then putting the information with the item. This area has been mentioned in the Post Office Stone volume 23, number 3, August 1991 in an article by Arie Bakker who describes these pieces of paper as Postal Receipts.

This collection originally started as a collection of Frama labels but after reading in The Union Handbook, page 314, 1952 edition that mentioned that the post office notice of 19 August 1935 states "that it is notified for general information that a Parcel Franking Machine has been introduced experimentally at Pretoria". The complete article is show on page 2.

### There were 5 basic labels N.C.R. (National Cash Registers) 1-5

N.C.R. 1. Parcel Post—Pakketpos - Paid

N.C.R. 2. Pakketpos—Parcel Post- Paid

N.C.R. 3. Pakketpos—Parcel Post- Paid Betaal

N.C.R. 4 Bilingual town names

N.C.R. 5 Town names straight instead of curved, Pakketpos,

Parcel Post Paid— Betaal in smaller letters.



The Challenge is to try and assemble a collection, but the truth is that most stamp collectors threw this type of material out as it did not have any collecting appeal.

### PPL1. Experimental Trail Use: Ohmar Fare 1936

Only a single loose tape/slip is known to have survived, photo shown in Fig 1. as a borderless frank with a large "PARCEL POST / PAKKETPOS" / "PRETORIA" in top half. Below "PRETORIA" is a line across the stamp with "DATE" "PAID/BETAAL" "ASS'T" / "NO". Along the bottom are the date, value figures, "M5" (clerk identification), and a 3-digit transaction number. It is printed in violet on green paper. One machine is known used experimentally. Strangely it is dated 2 IV 1936 although the announcement was made in 1935, and green paper was used not yellow.



Fig.1 First experimental parcel label

Photo with acknowledgment to Wikibooks .org

# SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

Extract from The Union Handbook, page 314, 1952 edition

314

## SECTION 30

### ADHESIVE PARCEL LABELS

A notice issued by the Post Office on the 19th August, 1935, states "that it is notified for general information that a Parcel Franking Machine has been introduced experimentally at Pretoria. Parcels franked by this machine will bear yellow labels of the following design in place of the usual postage stamps. The amount of the postage paid will be indicated on the label. Similar machines will in due course be introduced at Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban."

The type of machine brought into service was the National Cash Register (N.C.R.) which prints through a violet ribbon on gummed paper varying in shade from pale yellow to deep ochre, in amounts of 1d. to 11d., 1/- to 19/-, and £1 to £99, or in all, from 1d. to £99/19/11. The number of the machine is shown on the left of the amount paid, the sequence number on the right. The date of posting appears at the top, the month in Roman figures.



During 1947 white labels were introduced and are still in use. Many types occur, varying in minor details from the five following::

- N.C.R. 1. Parcel Post—Pakketpos—Paid.
- N.C.R. 2. Pakketpos—Parcel Post—Paid.
- N.C.R. 3. Pakketpos—Parcel Post—Paid. Betaal.
- N.C.R. 4. Bilingual town names.
- N.C.R. 5. Town names straight instead of curved, Pakketpos, Parcelpost Paid — Betaal, smaller lettering.

The following Town names have been recorded but many new machines have been installed during the past year.

Bloemfontein.  
Caledon Square, Cape Town.  
Cape Town.  
Durban.  
East London.  
Germiston.  
Pietermaritzburg.  
Jeppe Street, Johannesburg.  
Johannesburg.  
Krugersdorp.  
Kimberley.  
Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg.  
Church Street, Pietermaritzburg.  
Port Elizabeth.  
Pretoria.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

### PPL2. Parcel Post Paid label - NCR-Yellow /ochre paper 1936-1958

The earliest machine that was brought into service was the N.C.R. which prints through a violet ribbon on gummed paper varying in shades from pale yellow to deep ochre, in amounts from 1d to £99/19/11.

Here is an example of an early usage of the label dated 6 July 1937 printed by National Cash Register in Johannesburg.

The **Date of posting** appears at the top with the month in Roman figures. This is followed by "**PAKKETPOS— PARCEL POST**" or "**PARCEL POST—PAKKETPOS**" in a curve with ornaments above. **Through the center** is the value line (machine number on the left, amount paid, transaction counter on the right) (often found without the machine number). Below the value figures are "**PAID**" / "**BETAAL**" or "**BETAAL / PAID**" usually with a line above. At bottom is the town name curved.



Below is a fine example of the Parcel label tied to piece by a straight line Johannesburg parcel canceller. This is a unique proving item dated 28 January 1947



## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

### PPL2. Parcel Post Paid label cont'd - NCR-White and Buff paper 1944-1968

The earliest recorded label is 5 February 1936. Of interest is that the date is earlier than the experimental label. From 1944 white or buff paper was introduced. The same range of designs as with the yellow paper are found. Occasionally yellow paper is also used in this period, as in Central St, Pretoria in 1949. The parcel post labels were only permitted for parcels, and items on piece are rare, and obviously on a parcel are very rare. These labels are thus collected loose.

The item below was used in Pretoria and originates from National Cash Register number four as seen on the left. The item below was printed in 1948. The printing of "PAKKETPOS- PARCEL POST" and scrolls above are in small print. The word Pretoria is on a straight line and the scrolls either side are small.



A range of designs were produced. Durban was the only machine seen producing only English labels. There were many machines in the various centres, with Pretoria having 9 terminals, Johannesburg had 7 terminals and East London 9 terminals. During this period a number of smaller offices received terminals and decimalisation took place when the £sd were converted to Rc on 14 February 1961. The dot between s and d became a decimal point between R and c.

**SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE  
PERIOD 1935-1968**

The item below was used in Pretoria and originates from a National Cash Register without a cash register number as can be seen on the left on the label. The item below was printed on the 15 November 1949 in Pretoria.



Printing details of the label

**"PAKKETPOS- PARCEL POST"** with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.

On the centre line - **No Register Number—Value Figures-Transaction Counter.**

Below the value figures is **"PAID' / BETAAL"** with a line above.

The town name **-PRETORIA-** is curved without any scrolls on either side.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were used in Pretoria and originate from a National Cash Register number one, as can be seen on the left on the label. The dates represented are 12th October 1949 and 5th December 1950.



### Printing details of the labels

**"PAKKETPOS- PARCEL POST"** with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.

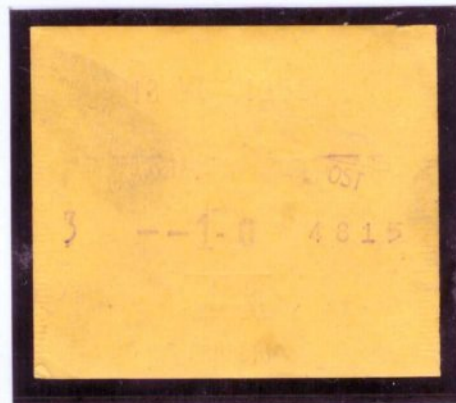
On the centre line - **Register Number—Value Figures-Transaction Counter.**

Below the value figures is **"PAID' / BETAAL"** with a line above.

The town name **-PRETORIA-** is curved without any scrolls on either side on the left hand label and large scrolls on either side of the right hand label.

# SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria and originate from National Cash Register  
Number Three, as noted on the left of the label.



### Printing details of the labels

- A,B,C** "PAKKETPOS – PARCEL POST" with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.
- D,E** "PAKKETPOS – PARCEL POST" With curled ornaments above
- A,B,C,D,E** Below the value figures is "PAID" / "BETAAL" with a line above.
- A** -PRETORIA- is curved large scrolls on either side of the label.
- B,C** -PRETORIA- is curved with no scrolls on either side of the label.
- D,E** -PRETORIA- is straight and not curved, but has ornaments on either side

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria, printed in 1948 and originate from National Cash Register **Number Four**, as noted on the left of the label.



### Printing details of the labels

“PAKKEETPOS – PARCEL POST” is curved with curled ornaments above on either side.  
 “PAID” / “BETAAL” in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.  
 -PRETORIA- large lettering is not curved with curled ornaments on either side.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria, printed in 1948 and originate from National Cash Register **Number Five**, as noted on the left of the label.



### Printing details of the labels

“PAKKETPOS – PARCEL POST” is curved with curled ornaments above on either side.  
 “PAID’ / BETAAL” in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.  
 -PRETORIA– large lettering and is not curved with curled ornaments on either side.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria, printed in 1949 and 1950 and originate from National Cash Register **Number Five**, as noted on the left of the label.



### Printing details of the labels

**"PAKKETPOS – PARCEL POST"** larger print with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.

**"PAID' / BETAAL"** in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.

**-PRETORIA-** small lettering and is curved with no curled ornaments on the side

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria, printed in 1948, 1949 and 1951 and originate from National Cash Register **Number Six**, as noted on the left of the label.

A



B



### Printing details of the labels

- A** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" Small print with curled ornaments above either side.
- B** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" larger print with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.
- A,B** - "PAID' / BETAAL" in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.
- A** -PRETORIA- large lettering and is straight with curled ornaments on the sides.
- B** -PRETORIA- small lettering and is curved with no ornaments on the sides.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Pretoria, printed in 1948 and 1949 and originate from National Cash Register **Number Eight**, as noted on the left of the label.

A



B



### Printing details of the labels

- A** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" larger print with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.
- B** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" Small print with curled ornaments above either side.
- A,B** - "PAID" / "BETAAL" in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.
- A** - PRETORIA - small lettering and is curved with no ornaments on the sides.
- B** - PRETORIA - large lettering and is straight with curled ornaments on the sides.

**SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE  
PERIOD 1935-1968**

The item below was issued in Pretoria, printed in 1st October 1948 and originates from National Cash Register **Number Nine**, as noted on the left of the label.



**Printing details of the labels**

**"PAKKEPOS – PARCEL POST"** Small print with curled ornaments above either side.

**"PAID' / BETAAL"** in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.

- **PRETORIA** - large lettering and is straight with curled ornaments on the sides.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Johannesburg, printed in 1950, 1958 and 1960 and originate from National Cash Register **Number 1 and 3**, as noted on the left of the label. The third label does not have a National Cash Register Number. The labels are often found with no number.



A



B



C

### Printing details of the labels

- A** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" larger print with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.
- B,C** - "PAKKETPOS - PARCEL POST" Small print with no curled ornaments
- A** - "PAID' / BETAAL" in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.
- B** - "PAID' / BETAAL" with alternate font below the value figures with a line above.
- C** - "BETAAL/PAID " in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.
- A,B** - RISSIK STR. JHB -small lettering and curved with no curled ornaments on the sides.
- C** - COMMISSIONER STR.-small lettering and curved with no curled ornaments on the Sides.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The item below was issued in Johannesburg, printed in 31st October 1961 and has no National Cash Register number, as noted on the left of the label.

During this period a number of small offices received terminals and decimalisation took place when the **£sd** were converted to **Rc** on the 14th February 1961. The dot between **s** and **d** become a decimal point between the **R** and **c**.

Below is an example of the Parcel label tied to piece.



### Printing details of the labels

**"PARCEL POST - PAKKETPOS"** Small print with no curled ornaments above either side.

**"PAID / BETAAL"** in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.

- **RISSIK STR. JOHANNESBURG** - in small lettering and is curved with no curled ornaments.

## SOUTH AFRICAN ADHESIVE PARCEL POST LABELS FOR THE PERIOD 1935-1968

The items below were issued in Cape Town and Stellenbosch, printed in 16th September 1961 and 28th June 1964 and have no National Cash Register number, as noted on the left of the labels.

A



B



### Printing details of the labels

- A** - "PAKKEETPOS – PARCEL POST" larger print with triangular ornaments on either side.
- B** - "PAKKEETPOS – PARCEL POST" larger print with triangular ornaments with three prongs on either side.
- A,B** - "PAID / BETAAL" in small lettering below the value figures with a line above.
- A** - CAPETOWN - in small lettering and is curved with no curled ornaments.
- B** - STELLENBOSCH - in small lettering and is curved with no curled ornaments

### References:

- Visser. A. RSPSA *The Genealogy of a South African Post Office Cash Register/Terminal Receipt*, The SA Philatelist, February 2022.
- *Stamps of South Africa* - Handbook/Catalogue, 1979 2nd Rev Edition pp445/6.
- *Union of South Africa* - Handbook/Catalogue, 1952 van Riebeeck Tercentenary Edition p314.
- *International postage Meter Stamp Society* website [https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/international\\_Postage\\_Meter\\_/Stamp\\_Catalogue/South\\_Africa\\_\(2021\)](https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/international_Postage_Meter_/Stamp_Catalogue/South_Africa_(2021))
- *The Post Office Stone*, volume 23, number 3, August 1991.
- SA Philatelist various articles.